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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Ukrainian SSR)

REPORT

SUBJECT 1. Restricted Area in the Crimea
2. Crimean Area Oil-Well Drilling

DATE DISTR.

18 April 1960

NO. PAGES

2

REFERENCES

50X1-HUM

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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1. A report of oil-well drilling and prospecting expeditions in the Crimean area

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2. A restricted area was described as occupying a stretch along the Black Sea coast. The restricted zone is given as point No 7 on the attached overlay of the Crimean Oblast. It occupied a north-south stretch of from two to two and one-half kilometers

18 APR 1960

for this reason, in order to bathe in the summertime, it was necessary to travel a great distance. The expedition was once visited by two members of the MVD, wearing khaki uniforms like those of the regular Army, with red shoulder straps, and red stripes on their hats, which had a blue crown. They searched the expedition with great care, and it was said that they were from the restricted area and were looking for diving suits of "frogmen" because they had apparently had occasion to pursue "frogmen" near the restricted area.

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enclosure attached

STATE	X	ARMY #	X	NAVY	X	AIR	16	NSA	X	FBI	X	NIC	X	
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)														

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

-2-

OVERLAY OF KROMKAYA

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Scale: 1:600,000

Note:
Points 1-6 are oil-well drilling
areas described in attachment.
Point 7 is "restricted area"

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COUNTRY: USSR (Krymskaya Oblast)

REPORT NO. *[redacted]*

SUBJECT: Oil-Well Drilling and
Restricted Area in
Crimean Peninsula

DATE OF INFO:

DATE ACQUIRED:

PLACE ACQUIRED: *[redacted]*

DATE OF REPORT: 22 March 1960

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OIL-WELL DRILLING AND RESTRICTED AREA IN CRIMEAN PENINSULA

1. Wells drilled *[redacted]* were numbered as follows and their location is given on the overlay of a map of the Krymskaya Oblast on page 6.

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- a. Drillings Nos. 2,4,5,8, and 9 were located about four kilometers from Stantsiya Vladislavovka area (point No. 4 on the overlay).
- b. Drillings Nos. 6,7,11,12,13, and 15 (point No. 6 on the overlay) were located seven or eight kilometers south of the village of Selo Zhelezovka.

It was said that all had yielded oil but in such small quantities that their exploitation would not have been profitable. *[redacted]*

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2. Other expeditions drilled near Semenovka, Arshintsevo, and Glazovka on the Kerch Peninsula, and another near Yevpatoriya. These drilling sites are located approximately on the overlay. Until July 1953, the

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-2-

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drilling operations were subordinate to the Ministry of Petroleum Geology of the USSR [sic] through a directorate of that ministry. After that date, the drilling operations were subordinate to the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry. The wells did not produce oil except for the Glazovka and Arshintsevo areas which had a few wells producing oil in small quantities. The oil was extracted with pumps.

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3. In all drilling operations, drill holes were cemented every 500 meters; before cementing, a commission called Karatashinki (sic) came from the directorate for oil-well drilling in Feodosiya to carry out tests involving apparatus that was lowered into the wells to obtain data whose value or use were not explained by members of the commission, which was composed of 10 or 12 persons including technicians, geologists, and laborers or assistants. At all drilling sites, a sample of the earth, stones, or minerals extracted was taken every ten or 15 meters and sent to the directorate laboratory; the subsequent analyses were made under orders received from the Ministry of Petroleum Geology.
4. Piping was not installed from the wells to other sites. There were no roads near the drilling sites [redacted] All-terrain trucks with rubber tires and four-wheel drive were used to transport equipment to the drilling sites. When the terrain was muddy, caterpillar tractors were used to tow iron sleds made of pipes.
5. The Vladislavovka railroad station was located about four kilometers from the Vladislavovka drilling sites. In the selo Zheleznovka area, the Sem Kolodezey railroad station was located at a distance of about 20 kilometers. The nearest highway was about 12 kilometers away, running through selo Leninskoye.
6. The terrain was completely flat and steppe-like, with no rivers although there were some unimportant lakes, the water from which was used in drilling operations.
7. Drilling towers were made of steel pipe and were of two different sizes, according to the depth of the well. The smaller tower measured about 28 meters high and had four legs separated at the base by about six meters. The tower arrived at the site in one piece, with the two

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227

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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-3-

compressors already installed. One of these compressors was used to prepare the mixture of clay, caustic soda, and charcoal in two cement mixers, and the other compressor injected the mixture during drilling operations. Equipment included two 300-HP V-12 diesel engines of the type used in the T-34 tank in 1954, one driving the two compressors and the other providing power for the rotary drill. Pipes measuring 100 millimeters in exterior diameter were used at the beginning of drilling operations, diminishing to 75 millimeters in exterior diameter. This smaller tower and its equipment were used for depths of less than 1,200 meters. The larger towers measured 41 meters high, had four legs separated at the base by about 12 meters, and arrived disassembled at the drilling site. Accessories included two 300-atmosphere compressors appreciably larger than those already described, four diesel engines exactly like those described, two cement mixers, a rotary drilling rig of a larger size than that above, using pipes measuring 150 mm in exterior diameter and ending with pipes having a 50 or 75 mm exterior diameter. This larger tower was used for depths of up to 3,000 meters. These towers were removed when the drilling was finished, whether oil was found or not, because these towers were used only for drilling operations. The minimum distance between wells was from one to one and one-half kilometers. The towers, engines, compressors, and all the equipment, in general, bore the mark of the Uralmash plant

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located in Sverdlovsk.

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8. Water was drawn through pipes from the nearest lake or stream. In winter, these water pipes were placed underground. The only electricity used was for lights and was supplied by the rig's generators.

9. There was one directorate of the Ministry of Petroleum Geology for the entire Crimean Peninsula. Four or five expeditions were subordinated to this directorate, and these expeditions were given the name of the town nearest the drilling site. [] expedition in []

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[] Stantsiya Vladislavovka and later, to selo Zheleznovka. There were others in Semenovka, Kerch, and Yevpatoriya. [] expedition drilled seven or eight wells at the same time. The expeditions were organized as follows: the chief of the expedition, [] was a geologist, was assisted by another geologist who was in charge of the drilling operations; each drilling shift had a foreman who had specialized in drilling operations, a drilling operator who was also in charge of the compressors, his helper, two engine operators, a cement-mixer operator, a person in charge of preparing the drilling mixture, and three laborers. There was also a small machinery-repair shop installed in a hut and employing eight or ten men on one shift plus four or five

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-4-

administrative employees. This shop had a portable electric generator, a welding set, a drill press, and hand tools. All these personnel belonged to the expedition. There were six or eight persons who carried out housekeeping work and who were hired in the nearest town. There were no military personnel, prisoners, or convicts

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10. An eight-hour three-shift work day, including Saturdays, was observed. On Sundays and holidays only the compressor operators worked so that the drilling mixture would continue to circulate.

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The foreman and the drilling operator were paid according to the number of meters the well was sunk. The other personnel received a base wage of from 900 to 1,000 rubles monthly plus an approximate 30 percent bonus for living away from populated areas and without running water. The chief of the expedition, the geologist, the foremen, and administrative employees received 20 working days' vacation annually. The remaining personnel received 15 working days. These vacations were given throughout the year. There was no accident insurance and no partial disability pensions were paid. Pensions were given for total disability only. Work contracts were for a minimum period of three years, with renewal options.

11. Each well had two guards, one of whom was permanent, who were paid by the directorate and not by the expedition. They wore a uniform unlike that worn by any state organization and carried a rifle and a pistol. Each expedition had two special guards who were professional firemen and whose duty it was to see that fire-safety precautions were taken and that fire-fighting equipment such as water pumps, foam extinguishers, sand, axes, and pikes were in good condition. Personnel had no pass or propusk and could enter or leave the area as desired.

12. Following is the legend for the overlay to the map of Krymsksaya Oblast on page 6 .

- (1) Drilling area located northeast of Semenovka.
- (2) Drilling area with some oil-producing wells, located north of and near to Glazovka.
- (3) Drilling area with some oil-producing wells, located west of and near to Arshintsevo.
- (4) Drilling area located southeast of Stantsiya Vladislavovka; it contained wells Nos. 2,4,5,8, and 9.

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-5-

- (5) Approximate location of the town named selo Zheleznovka, which was a small group of houses occupied by kolkhozniki.
- (6) Drilling area located south of and near to the town of selo Zheleznovka; it contained wells Nos. 6,7,11,12,13, and 15.
- (7) Restricted area, occupying a north-south stretch of from two to two and one-half kilometers

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[redacted] for this reason, in order to bathe in the summertime, it was necessary to travel a great distance. The expedition was once visited by two members of the MVD, wearing khaki uniforms like those of the regular Army, with red shoulder straps, and red stripes on their hats, which had a blue crown. They searched the expedition with great care, and it was said that they were from the restricted area and were looking for diving suits of "frogmen" because they had apparently had occasion to pursue "frogmen" near the restricted area.

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